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IN REPLY REFER TO:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Biological Survey
Midwest Science Center
4200 New Haven Road
Columbia, Missouri 65201**

October 21, 1994

Threatened and endangered species have limited distributions and any further adverse effects on these populations could lead to extinction. Contaminants inevitably enter the environment from local land use practices (agriculture, forestry, mining, urban development) and because of the wide use of chemicals by agriculture, industry, and the public. Numerous Federal agencies have program responsibilities for resource management. Federal agencies are required by the Endangered Species Act to evaluate the impact of their program activities on threatened and endangered species. Listed species may be under protected, or unnecessary regulatory programs may be implemented, if the contaminant risk to listed species is not evaluated.

A workshop including participants from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Biological Survey (NBS) and others will be held to discuss the impacts of contaminants on threatened and endangered species. This workshop is to be held in April, 1995 at the NBS Midwest Science Center (Columbia, MO) or the EPA Environmental Research Laboratory - Gulf Breeze (FL). The goal of the workshop is to develop data-based approaches for assessing the hazards of contaminants to endangered aquatic species. Prior to this workshop we want to compile and evaluate the information needs of federal agencies to address endangered species and contaminants. Your assistance in this process is appreciated. Please complete the enclosed informational sheet by 11/11/94 and return to:

Midwest Science Center
Attn: Jim Dwyer
4200 New Haven Road
Columbia, MO 65201

Please feel free to make additional copies of this informational sheet and route it to other individuals within your office or individuals within other federal agencies with which you have worked. A summary of the findings from this workshop will be provided to all those individuals who respond to this information request. If you have any questions contact Jim Dwyer (314-875-5395).

Sincerely;

Denny R. Buckler
National Biological Survey

Foster L. Mayer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

DATA NEEDS FOR AQUATIC THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Name: _____

Position: _____

Agency: _____ State or Region: _____ Phone: _____

1. What are the primary sources of contaminants which may be impacting threatened and endangered (T&E) species in your area.

___municipal effluent ___industrial effluent ___urban runoff

___mining practices ___agricultural spraying

___livestock (cattle, hogs, poultry) operations

___suspended solids from forestry or agricultural practices

other (please specify)

2. Please provide information concerning the situations that require you to evaluate the effects of contaminants on T&E species.

3. What effects are contaminants having on the T&E species in your area.

___impacts on survival ___impacts on reproductive success

___impacts on food sources for T&E species

___impacts on habitat

4. What type of information do you currently use to evaluate the risk of contaminant exposure to T&E species.

5. What information would allow you to adequately evaluate the risk to T&E species from contaminant exposure.
(For example: chemical effects on the species of concern; effects of water quality on toxicity of various chemicals; information regarding relative sensitivity of standard test organisms.)

6. Toxicity tests are often required in order to adequately evaluate the sensitivity of a species to contaminant exposure. With this in mind:
 - a. ___ would T&E species be available for toxicity testing;
 - b. ___ could surrogate species be identified for the T&E species which would allow for toxicity testing without using T&E species.

7. What other issues have not been addressed in this survey that are important in the evaluation of contaminant risk to T&E species.

Please return by 11/11/94 to: Jim Dwyer, Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Road, Columbia, MO 65203. For further information call 314-875-5399.